

**Council on Postsecondary Education
Committee on Equal Opportunities
October 17, 2005**

The Partnership Agreement and The Kentucky Plan

The following information focuses on The Kentucky Plan and Partnership Agreement activities reported to the Committee on Equal Opportunities since the June 2005 meeting.

Partnership Status: The Commonwealth has not received formal notice of its status regarding the partnership with the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights.

Council staff submitted a request to the Office for Civil Rights to amend the agreement to allow flexibility for Kentucky State University to replace, rather than renovate, Young Hall dormitory. As of this writing, the OCR has not responded to the CPE request. A copy of the request is included as Attachment 1.

Campus Visits and Discussions: The committee conducted a Kentucky Plan discussion with the Kentucky Community Technical College System president, and district presidents, Wednesday, September 28, 2005. A campus visit will be held at Eastern Kentucky University October 17-18, 2005.

Public Agenda for Postsecondary and Adult Education 2005-2010: The Council formally introduced the public agenda for postsecondary and adult education for 2005-2010 September 18, at the Governor's Conference on Postsecondary Education Trusteeship. The public agenda is organized around five questions (revised), broadly identifies key indicators of progress, and includes a campus action plan for each public postsecondary institution. The public agenda materials are available on the Council's web site at <http://www.cpe.ky.gov/planning/strategic> .

CPE Affordability Study: The affordability study was presented by JBL associates, inc and adopted at the September 18 Council meeting. The results of the study, along with additional analysis, will be used by Council staff and institutional representatives to develop tuition policy and the parameters within which tuition rates will be set. The report is available at <http://cpe.ky.gov/about/cpe/meetings/20050918.htm>

CPE/KSU Comprehensive Assessment Oversight Committee: The regular meetings of the CPE/KSU Joint Comprehensive Assessment Oversight Committee are temporarily suspended because the KSU board chair was unable to appoint representatives to the committee, due to member resignations. New appointments to the board of regents were recently made by the Governor. After identification of new KSU representatives by the board the committee will resume meeting.

KSU Board Appointments: September 7, 2005, Mr. V. Jeffrey Alston, an attorney in Louisville, and Edward Scott Willis, Vice-President of Emerging Markets (Mid Atlantic Region) for First Horizon Home Loan Corporation, were appointed to the KSU Board of Regents by Governor Fletcher September 7, 2005.

The SREB Doctoral Scholars Program: Staffs of the Council, UK, and UofL identified 14 continuing scholars, seven new scholars, and six dissertation-year scholars to participate in the SREB Doctoral Scholars Program fall 2005. Kentucky has a strong program that continues to lag behind states like Alabama, Mississippi, and Virginia.

Currently, there are 27 students matriculating through the program. According to SREB, as of September 2005, the program has served 64 scholars in Kentucky. Twenty-eight Kentucky scholars have completed the Ph.D., one withdrew, two have transferred to programs in other states, and the rest are on schedule to complete the program.

The 2005 scholars and their mentors will attend the Annual Institute on Teaching and Mentoring in Arlington, Virginia, October 27-30. Also, representatives of Eastern Kentucky University and Northern Kentucky University are invited to participate in the institute's recruitment. Institutions are allowed this opportunity by invitation only to recruit scholars who are completing their Ph.D. in 2005-06. The SREB Institute presents the largest pool of credentialed ethnic minority professionals, in a single location, to fill faculty and administrative positions that are available at institutions.

The Louisville Defender Minority Consumer Expo: The Minority Consumer Expo will be held October 28-30, 2005, at the Kentucky International Convention Center in downtown Louisville. State Government and the Louisville Defender are sponsoring the annual event. A majority of the institutions have indicated that they will participate in the expo event.

Governors Minority Student College Preparation Program Annual Conference: The 2006 statewide conference of the GMSCPP will be hosted by the University of Louisville at the Belknap Campus in downtown Louisville in June. Conference planning will begin December 2005.

The Proficient Seniors and Juniors Annual Conference: Three institutions are in line to host the 2006 annual conference of the GMSCPP. A host institution will be identified and reported to the committee at the February 2006 meeting.

Next CEO Meeting: The next meeting of the Committee on Equal Opportunities will be February 20, 2006. The meeting will begin at 9 a.m. (ET) at the Council offices in Frankfort, Kentucky.